

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A discomfort index of sound is obtained by an equation using the loudness value, sharpness value, tonality value and impulsiveness value of psychoacoustic parameters obtained from  
5 sounds at a position away from the end face of an image formation apparatus by 1m. The discomfort index is decreased by reducing the high frequency component, charging noise, metallic impulsive sound and the like of the image formation apparatus, to thereby contribute to the improvement of the use environment.